Effect of Ayodhya incident on Indo-Pak talks

†408. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that before embarking on foreign visit on 6th July, 2005 the Prime Minister in his interview given to print media warned that it is proved that Pakistan terrorists were involved in attack in Ayodhya than the peace talk being held between two countries may be adversely affected; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Government have always made it clear that the India-Pakistan peace process can be sustained only in an atmosphere free from terrorism and violence and is critically dependent on the fulfilment of the January 6, 2004 commitment of President Musharraf not to permit any territory under Pakistan's control to be used to support terrorism in any manner. Major incidents, like the recent attack at Ayodhya, if repeated, have the potential to disrupt this process.

New schemes for Labour Class

†409. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 64 per cent of labour class retire prematurely due to health related reasons;

(b) if not, the assessment of Government in this regard;

(c) whether Government have formulated any scheme at national level to overcome the weakness of the labour class; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHAR RAO): (a) and (b) Data in this matter is not centrally maintained.

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.